

## MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING

Commission on Racial Justice and Equity

Thursday, April 1, 2021

7pm

Held Via Zoom

Meeting began at 7pm. In attendance were Alina Bricklin-Goldstein, Deb Carroll, Tracy-Ann Johnson, Barret Katuna, Sue Oppenheimer, Dave Peniston, Lillian Tanski, Michael Vigeant, Jen Wang

Absent: Xabian Alarcon

Public comment: None

Report from Communications Working Group:

JW & BK: explanation of commission website; wordpress site just started, discussion of importance of unified look and content across commission site and social media sites; outline schedule of updating content; potentially share bios of commission members online; connect to other outlets; options for content include community profiles, community members sharing experiences with racism in Glastonbury; discussion on how to manage public comments on social media and direct messages; potentially craft a policy regarding content; moderation schedule to share responsibility among commission members;

LT: consider the power of follow-up questions in commission responses, and how that can shape conversation, policy on hate speech

MV: need to be careful we don't become "the authority"; we're the initiator of conversation, not the answering voice; voice of dialogue and repair

Offer timeframe for responses to questions posed of commission online?

Motion by DC to cancel next regularly scheduled commission meeting on 4/15 and schedule special meeting on 4/22; seconded by LT, passed unanimously

DC: present draft of mission statement

MV: the details we're now stuck on are small in terms of the mission statement. The intention is good—don't sweat the small stuff

MV: present draft of survey, edited with feedback from commission members; pulled together suggestions from members; with everyone's additions, currently at 80 questions; with call surveys, numbers of respondents down to 1 in 55 during covid (compared to 1 in 30 prior); better to go longer in digital version as opposed to phone version; definitions from start of original draft now embedded in survey—"put to work"; ask for written feedback from commission before next meeting on 4/22

SO & TJ: art contest ideas, possible ways to market contest

DP: meeting with school equity working group update; possible shift from in-school suspensions for racially-motivated issues to some kind of education

Minutes from 3/18 unanimously approved

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15pm